

ABSTRACT

A fine metal particle producing mechanism (22) has a metal holder (30) for housing a body (26) of magnesium, a tube (32) for supplying an argon gas to the body (26) of magnesium, an argon gas flow rate controller (34) for controlling a rate at which the argon gas is supplied to the tube (32), and an argon gas heating controller (36) for heating the argon gas supplied to the tube (32) to a predetermined temperature.